ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a flat fluorescent lamp having a uniform screen brightness, by inducing a discharge even at a low discharge initiating voltage, minimizing a non-luminescent region, and maintaining an optimal luminance uniformity. Further, a backlight unit using the flat fluorescent lamp is provided. The flat fluorescent lamp includes a front substrate, a back substrate having a continuous serpentine type discharge channel defined by a plurality of partitions, which are extended from both side ends of the back substrate and alternately disposed, a pair of electrodes provided on an outer surface of any one of the front substrate and the back substrate, and an inverter to apply power to the electrodes, wherein each of the electrodes includes discharge electrodes mounted in strip shapes along both side ends of the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate, and a plurality of subsidiary electrodes mounted on the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate to correspond to positions of the partitions, and disposed to be perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, the plurality of subsidiary electrodes being alternately connected to inner edges of both the discharge electrodes so that neighboring subsidiary electrodes have different polarities.

27